

Ames Laboratory

Professional and Scientific Level Description

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JOB TITLE: Assistant Scientist II

GRADE: 34

JOB SUMMARY: The Assistant Scientist II provides complex professional level scientific support to one or more research groups by conducting experiments, analyzing and reporting scientific data, modifying and designing research equipment, and assisting in the preparation of manuscripts and proposals. The Assistant Scientist II will be familiar with laboratory processes and procedures and may be involved in the training of others.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Conducts investigations, experiments and tests to produce new scientific data, mathematical models, or methods to test concepts, design criteria, measurements and predictions. May design computer applications and develop computer software. Assist in the development of experimental designs, methods, techniques, instrumentation and devices. Plans project details on the basis of precedents established in related projects. Designs and/or modifies research equipment based on functional needs. Trains graduate and undergraduate students on laboratory methods, technical procedures or equipment use. Monitors usage of equipment for safety and appropriate use. Trains entry level scientists on research processes and techniques within the group. Assists senior colleagues in writing manuscripts for publication and/or presentation, ad grant proposals for outside funding. Prepares comprehensive progress reports and final reports for Supervisor. Maintains familiarity with relevant current literature and methodologies.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: B.S. degree in physical science or engineering plus four years of research experience or M.S. plus two years experience.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS: Broad knowledge of basic theories, principles, concepts and methodologies. Ability to apply research procedures to specific situations.

EXTRAORDINARY WORKING CONDITIONS: May work in a laboratory environment with chemicals and /or equipment. May require work at irregular hours to complete experimental processes. May require travel for professional conferences or professional development activities.